



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

DWS's officials addresses issues of water restrictions during service delivery Imbizo

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Officials of the Department of Water and Sanitation had their hands full when they fielded several questions related to water restrictions during an Imbizo which was held at the Nellmapius Multi-purpose Centre on 17 February 2017.

Residents took the opportunity to direct questions related to water restrictions to officials manning the DWS's stand. One of the key questions was to seek clarity on when were the restrictions going to be lifted. They complained why the restrictions remained in force despite the recent downpours they had seen.

Fielding the questions, the officials told the public that the recent rainfalls were not nearly enough to lift the restrictions as the dams still remained dangerously low.

Residents were urged to continue saving water and to preserve wetlands as they were important for fresh water resources.

During the Imbizo, Deputy Minister of Public Service and Administration, Ms Ayanda Dlodlo interacted with the community, explaining to them what government was doing to improve their lives.

Deputy Minister Dlodlo reflected on the key topics of the State of the Nation Address that took place two weeks ago and how the South African government is committed to improve the lives of ordinary South Africans.

"The government is aware of the challenges facing Nellmapius and other parts of Mamelodi. Plans are underway to solve these problems," said the Deputy Minister.

Several other government departments and entities set-up mobile service stands outside the centre and engaged the community on various service delivery issues.

A member of the public, Kgomotso Malope, praised the unbridled communication between government and the people, saying such interactions were important to keep communities informed about service delivery issues.

"I am happy to see government bringing services and information at our door steps. We will appreciate to see this happen more often. This helps us to understand what the government is doing to improve our lives," said Malope.

In outlining the purpose of the event to the public, the Principal of National School of Government, Professor Richard Levin said: "We are here today to engage you the community of Mamelodi with the intention of improving the services of the government and also promote the community participation in service delivery."

Another community member, Lebogang Sekola, expressed positive sentiments at government efforts to give information about government services to the people



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She said: "It is encouraging to have programmes like this coming to our community. Our spirit gets lifted knowing that the government has not forgotten about us. I am looking forward to the following Izimbizo."

The community of Mamelodi is faced with a number of challenges such as the use of drugs amongst the youth, the growing number of unemployment, lack of basic services and criminal activities.

Lucky Makgarengi